

Serial No.: 09/677,653
Filing Date: October 3, 2000

LIST OF CLAIMS

1-14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a first sequence encoding at least one capsid protein of an insect small RNA virus and a second sequence which is insecticidal or which encodes an insecticidal protein toxin, wherein said capsid protein comprises an insect midgut cell binding domain.

16. (original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 15 in which the nucleic acid is RNA.

17. (previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 15 in which the insect small RNA virus is Helicoverpa armigera stunt virus (HaSV).

18. (previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 15 in which the capsid protein is HaSV P71 (SEQ ID NO: 50).

19. (original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 15 in which the insecticidal toxin is of plant origin.

20. (original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 15 in which the insecticidal toxin is Ricin A.

21. (previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 15 in which the second sequence is an antisense sequence or a ribozyme.

22. (previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 21 in which the second sequence is double stranded RNA.

23. (original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 15 in which the insecticidal toxin is less toxic to plants than insects.

24-32. (canceled)

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33. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a first sequence encoding at least one capsid protein of an insect small RNA virus and a second sequence which is insecticidal or which encodes an insecticidal protein toxin, wherein said capsid protein protects said second sequence from degradation.

34. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 33 in which the nucleic acid is RNA.

35. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 33 in which the insect small RNA virus is Helicoverpa armigera stunt virus (HaSV).

36. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 33 in which the capsid protein is HaSV P71 (SEQ ID NO: 50).

37. (new) (original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 33 in which the insecticidal toxin is of plant origin.

38. (new) (original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 33 in which the insecticidal toxin is Ricin A.

39. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 33 in which the second sequence is an antisense sequence or a ribozyme.

40. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 39 in which the second sequence is double stranded RNA.

41. (new) An isolated nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 33 in which the insecticidal toxin is less toxic to plants than insects.